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of the local to the central authorities and the organization and methods of the central departments that deal with local matters. The work closes with an outline of the theory of English local government and a criticism of von Gneist's doctrine of "Self-government."

Professor Redlich, and Mr. Hirst following in his tracks, have devoted themselves to what may be termed the politico-institutional side of local government. Every important local organism has been treated, its origin, development, organization, functions, efficiency and relation to other local bodies and higher governmental authorities. This treatment has by no means been confined to the contents of statutes and judicial decisions, but the factors and motives which dominate this machinery and accelerate or retard its motion are fully considered. Take, for example, the chapter on "Municipal Electioneering and Municipal Politics." I know of nothing else ever published which gives such an accurate and satisfying account of campaign methods in municipal elections, the attitude of the national parties in local politics, the working of the party system and the post-election attitude of successful candidates. No subject has been more frequently misunderstood and misrepresented in American books and articles.

The restriction of the field to the anatomy of local government has excluded obviously a long list of subjects which are extremely interesting, such as the social problems of city life and the relation of the community in its governmental capacity to economic and social conditions. But this fact is stated not as a criticism, for the boundaries set have logically been defined, but to give an idea of the scope of the work. To have handled these other subjects of such vital interest with the same degree of thoroughness would have required at least one additional volume. This work has been left to other hands.

The American reader who uses German and English with equal fluency will generally find the English edition more satisfactory: the view-point is more nearly our own. In certain specific instances, however, it will be necessary to consult the German edition rather than the English, as the two are not exactly alike. No one who wishes to be informed accurately upon the subject, especially that phase which is so prominent now—municipal government—can afford to be without either the German or the English edition. It is by far the best book upon its subject that has appeared in any language, and will receive a hearty welcome in the United States.

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New York City.

Ross, Edward Alsworth. *Foundations of Sociology.* Pp. xiv, 410. Price, \$1.25. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1905.

In this volume Professor Ross has gathered articles which have already appeared in various magazines; the earliest, the chapter on "Mob Mind" from the *Popular Science Monthly* of July, 1897; the latest, "The Value Rank of the American People," from *The Independent*, of November 10, 1904. The

volume is marked by the author's well-known versatility, clearness of statement and brilliancy of generalization. The chapters, however, show that they were written for different occasions. It is more than doubtful, too, whether some of them would have been included had the author started *de novo* to write the book.

In the preface it is stated: "An authoritative body of social theory exists at present as aspiration rather than fact. In this volume the writer has ventured on little beyond the laying of foundations." In the mind of the reviewer it is a bit premature to lay the foundation until the stones are quarried. For this reason I dislike the title of the book and believe that the author could have found one far better fitting the text.

Professor Ross looks upon sociology as a general science, of which social morphology, psychology, mechanics are but segments. Those phenomena are social "which we cannot explain without bringing in the action of one human being on another." In the first chapter, "The Scope and Task of Sociology," the author is running the boundary lines of the science, while in the second, economics and sociology are distinguished. In the chapter on "Social Laws" some of the pet formulæ of various writers are discussed with the conclusion that "sociology is not so much a sister science to politics or jurisprudence, as a fundamental and comprehensive discipline uniting at the base all the social sciences." The discussion of "The Unit of Investigation in Sociology" is very suggestive and stimulating. "The bane of sociology has been the employment of large units, the comparison in lump instead of the comparison in detail." "It is better to look for the common features of crowds or clans, or secret societies, or mining camps, or towns, than to compare nations." The real unit is the "social process," not some "product," be the product "groups," "relations," "institutions," "imperatives," "uniformities." "The social forces are human desires," which the author divides into "natural" (appetitive, hedonic, egotic, affective, recreative) and "cultural" (religious, ethical, æsthetic, intellectual). "The corner-stone of sociology must be a sound doctrine of the social forces."

Seventy-three pages are devoted to "The Factors of Social Change." The line of cleavage between statics and dynamics lies in the distinction between *persistence* and *change*. It is time sociologists dropped the words progress and regress and discussed *social change*. The growth of population, wealth, migration, invention and environmental changes are the chief stimuli to social change. This chapter is very valuable. The author has also rendered a service in his section of ninety-six pages on "Recent Tendencies in Sociology" in which the ideas of recent writers are compared and criticised. Chapter ten, "The Causes of Race Superiority" was the annual address before the American Academy of Political and Social Science in 1901, and was printed in the ANNALS, of July, 1901. The last article on "The Value Rank of the American People" is a brief essay to show that, unless care be taken, continued immigration, the absence of free land, the destructiveness of city life may seriously threaten the so-called "American spirit."

In brief, these are the topics treated. No one interested in the development of social theory, or in the understanding of social phenomena can

afford to leave it unread. The volume belongs in "The Citizen's Library," edited by Professor R. T. Ely.

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Willis, Henry Parker. *Our Philippine Problem.* Pp. xiii, 479. Price, \$1.50. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1905.

It needs to be stated at the beginning that this book is frankly critical of our Philippine policy, and particularly of the administration thereof. One who holds the views that the author evidently entertains in regard to "imperialism" could hardly write otherwise. Admitting that the political ethics of imperialism is an open question we can only ask our author to avoid censoriousness. Opinion will surely be divided as to whether he has succeeded in this or not, but since the division will probably traverse political lines of cleavage, we may accept it as considerably more than a brief of the attorney for the prosecution. So much can be stated at the beginning. Further perusal and analysis of the book will convince many readers, perhaps unwillingly too, that the criticisms and charges it contains are not only serious and grave in the extreme, but that their authenticity seems unquestionable. Let us particularize.

"It is obvious," he says, "that an absolute government, such as exists to-day in the Philippines, cannot lay claim to merit as the representative of popular will, and must rest for its justification (so far as any is possible) upon results. It must stand as a despotism, and those who believe in despotism anywhere applied can warrant such belief only on the ground that it is benevolent." The assertion that it is an absolute government, a despotism, he supports by the following evidence:

"The powers now actually in the hands of the civil governor are—1. All executive authority; 2. Leadership of the 'legislative' body and power to prescribe its rules and mode of operation, including the practical power to initiate all legislation; 3. Appointment of all officers of the government outside of the civil service, including judges of the first instance; 4. Practical direction of the military forces in their operation and distribution."

The so-called "legislative body" or commission acts as no check to the executive, as it is completely subservient thereto. "It should be understood that the islands are not now under civil, but under military, rule," the ruler being required to report regularly to the Secretary of War, and in no other way is information obtainable. This is certainly a condition of despotism; is it justified by the results?

Professor Willis answers, no; but he is careful to state that the present officials are not to be held responsible for a situation necessarily resulting from our military occupation of the islands. Among the evidences that our despotism is not benevolent in its results we may take time to notice the following:

First, the legal and judicial system rests upon three main supports: (a) Spanish law; (b) American procedure; (c) legislation by the commission.